



WHITESTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT



Whitestown Fire Department
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RE: Whitestown Fire Department Achieves ISO recognition as a Class 2 Department

The Whitestown Fire Department was recently recognized by the Insurance Service Office (ISO) as having a public protection classification of a Class 2. The ISO rates fire departments nationally on a routine basis, classifying them from 1 to 10, with a Class 1 being best. These ratings are then used by insurance companies to set rates, reflecting the fire department's ability to protect the area. The recent Class 2 rating is a significant increase from the previous Class 4 rating and a dramatic improvement from the Class 7 rating only six years ago. This classification puts the WFD in the top 3% of fire departments in the nation and in the top 2% in Indiana.

In 2013, When Chief Joshua Westrich took over the helm of the Whitestown Fire Department, the ISO rating for the agency was a Class 7, which meant WFD was among the top 75% of agencies in the nation. Improvement was clearly the goal. Very soon after Westrich became Chief, the agency was evaluated again and improved to a Class 4, which was exciting news at the time, and welcome news for homeowners and businesses alike, as the lower classification can translate to lower insurance rates. The department was evaluated again in early 2019 and this new classification truly reflects the hard work and dedication of all of the members of the WFD. To jump from a Class 7 to a Class 2 in six years is simply remarkable. Not only could this reflect a potential insurance savings of upwards of 10%, but it also reflects the preparedness, training, and responsiveness of the WFD.

Chief Josh Westrich offers the following remarks on the recent news: "Incorporating the focus of improving our ISO Public Protection Classification rating into our Department's strategic planning over the years has helped us maintain a good balance in keeping up with the explosive growth of our community. Our increase to a Class 2 Fire Department is proof that we are succeeding in providing the best service possible to our community stakeholders, while giving them a potential of keeping more money in their pockets when it comes to insurance. However, none of this would be possible without the help our partners in the Whitestown Department of Public Works, the Boone County Communications Center, and our neighboring fire departments as each of them reflect a portion of our community's grading. A job well done by all."



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